to identify drugs for Category-I recommended for inclusion of ORS under Category-I of drugs price control order;

(b) if so, when was such recommendation made; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that ORS has been excluded from price control after their recommendation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (c) ORS was included in the original Drugs Price Control Order 1987 under Category-I. The expert committee set up by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to review the Category-I drugs reiterated the listing of ORS, as per World Health Organisation formula, under Category-I, in their report submitted in November, 1988. The Department of Chemicals, However, deleted ORS from the amended Drugs Price Control Order in January, 1989 on the ground that ORS is not a single bulk drug but is a combination of a number of inorganic salts and dextrose. The Category-I list consists of single bulk drugs for the purpose of price control with MAPE (Maximum Allowable Postmanufacturing Expenses) of 75 per cent.

Import of Vincrestine and Vinblastine Injections

794. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Vincrestine and Vinblastine Injections are allowed for import under OGL;

(b) what was the quantity of each imported during the last three years;

(c) whether it is a fact that these injections are manufactured in the country;

(d) if so, what are the reasons to allow the import of these products under OGL;

(e) whether it is also a fact that India is exporting the bulk drugs based on which these products are manufactured in U.K., U.S.A. and other countries; and

(f) if so, what steps have been taken to save foreign exchange?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per statement annexed. (*See* below).

(c) Permission has been granted to two firms to manufacture these drugs in the country;

(d) Life saving drugs which are either not manufactured in the country or their production is not adequate to meet the requirements of the country are permitted to be imported under Open General Licence.

(e) and (f) Under the import and Export Policy 1988-91, there is no ban on the export of Vinblastine and Vincristine. The Chief Controller of Imports & Exports under the Ministry of Commerce, consider the requests for prohibiting import of products into the country based on the reference received from the manufacturers.

Statement

The details of the import of these drugs during the last 3 years are given below :

	1985-86		1986-87		1987-88	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Vincristine	25 gms 34000 vials	Rs. 12,71,899	245 gms 15274 vials	Rs. 22,63,365	75 gms	Rs. 3,16,336
Vinblastine Inj.	3100 vials 10 mg.	Rs. 1,60,083	1568 vials 10 mg	Rs. 80,771	Rs. Nil.	